

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated May 28, 2003. In view of the foregoing amendments and following representations, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Initially, on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner objects to the title of the invention as not being descriptive of the invention to which the claims are directed. Accordingly, the title has been amended in order to adopt the title suggested by the Examiner.

Next, on page 2 of the Office Action, claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. In response, claim 6 has been amended to provide the missing text. Therefore, it is submitted that the rejection of claim 6 is now clearly obviated.

Next, on pages 2-3 of the Office Action, claims 1-5, 7, 9, and 14 are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 2, 12, 4, 5, 7, 9 and 11 of application serial no. 09/951,625. However, the issue fee in application serial no. 09/951,625 was not paid, and thus the application is now abandoned (see NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT, mailed July 24, 2003). In view of the abandonment of application serial no. 09/951,625, the rejection of claims under obviousness-type double patenting has now been rendered moot.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present application is now clearly in condition for allowance. The Examiner therefore is requested to pass this case to issue.

In the event that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any remaining matters.

Respectfully submitted,

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